

## Message Text

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ORIGIN COA-02

INFO OCT-01 AF-10 ISO-00 COME-00 IO-14 SCI-06 HEW-08 INT-08

SMI-01 CG-00 DOTE-00 DLOS-06 EPA-04 CEQ-02 /062 R

DRAFTED BY S/FW-COA - HENRY L. HEYMANN:CJP

APPROVED BY S/FW-COA - HENRY L. HEYMANN

COMMERCE/NOAA - MRS. FOX

AF/S - MR. ELLISON

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R 201410Z MAR 74

FM SECSTATE WASHDC

TO AMEMBASSY PRETORIA

INFO AMCONSUL CAPE TOWN

UNCLAS STATE 055361

E.O. 11652 N/A

TAGS: TBIO SENV SF

REF: PRETORIA 1067

SUBJECT: MARINE MAMMAL PROTECTION ACT - SOUTH AFRICAN  
FUR SEALS

1. NATIONAL MARINE FISHERY SERVICE (NMFS) HAS PROVIDED  
FOLLOWING RE GAPS VISITING GROUP WILL BE ABLE TO FILL  
WHICH KIRKNESS REPORT WAS UNABLE TO TOUCH ON.

2. QUOTE CONTEMPLATED TRIP INVOLVES TRAVEL ONLY TO CAPE  
TOWN. NO FIELD TRIPS ARE INVOLVED.

3. PURPOSES OF TRIP ARE:

1. IN ORDER TO CONSIDER WAIVING THE MORATORIUM UNDER  
THE MARINE MAMMAL PROTECTION ACT OF 1972 (MMPA-72) AN  
ASSESSMENT OF THE ANTICIPATED ENVIRONMENTAL IMPACT OF THE  
ACTION MUST BE MADE. THIS COVERS NOT ONLY THE FUR SEAL  
BUT ALSO THE OTHER MEMBERS OF THAT ECOSYSTEM. WE WISH TO  
DISCUSS THIS IN DETAIL WITH THE SOUTH AFRICAN SCIENTISTS.

2. THE LAW REQUIRES THAT BEFORE ANY MARINE MAMMAL PRODUCT  
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IS IMPORTED INTO THE U.S. THAT THE AGENCY UNDER WHOSE

JURISDICTION THE PARTICULAR PRODUCT FALLS MUST CERTIFY THAT THE PROGRAM OF THE EXPORTING COUNTRY IS CONSISTENT WITH THE PROVISIONS OF THE MMPA-72. THE NMFS REPRESENTATIVE

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(KIRKNESS) WHO VISITED THE REPUBLIC OF SOUTH AFRICA CONSIDERED A PART OF THIS BUT DID NOT GO INTO THE POPULATION DYNAMICS DATA UPON WHICH SOUTH AFRICA BASES ITS PROGRAM--AS A MATTER OF FACT, THE SOUTH AFRICAN SCIENTISTS INDICATED TO THE NMFS REPRESENTATIVE THAT THEY WOULD VERY MUCH LIKE TO HAVE A POPULATION DYNAMICS SPECIALIST LOOK AT THEIR PROGRAM. ON THIS TRIP WE PLAN TO HAVE SUCH A SPECIALIST--MR. TIM SMITH FROM THE SOUTHWEST FISHERIES RESEARCH CENTER OF THE NMFS.

3. HEADING UP THE NMFS DELEGATION WILL BE MR. JOSEPH R. BLUM WHO IS IN CHARGE OF THE ENTIRE NMFS MARINE MAMMAL PROGRAM AND WHO IS DIRECTLY INVOLVED IN CERTIFYING THE COMPATIBILITY OF THE SOUTH AFRICAN PROGRAM WITH THE MMPA-72. MR. BLUM WISHES TO DISCUSS ALL ASPECTS OF THE SOUTH AFRICAN PROGRAM WITH PARTICULAR EMPHASIS ON REGULATORY PROCEDURES AND MANAGEMENT OBJECTIVES. IN ADDITION THERE ARE SPECIFIC MATTERS CONCERNING NURSING OF YOUNG ANIMALS AND ASSESSMENT OF SOUTH AFRICAN DATA THAT MUST BE DISCUSSED. END QUOTE KISSINGER

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## Message Attributes

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